

News from Concordia University's Department of Political Science

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Political Science

vember 2000

A FEW WORDS

The past two years of efforts in reorienting the department, renewing its curriculum, recruiting new faculty and delivering more than 60% of our undergraduate courses by the full-time faculty are finally beginning to show positive results. Our new curriculum has been implemented since June 2000. In July and August, our two new tenure-track and six limited-term faculty joined us, not only bringing additional areas of expertise to the department but increasing the full-time faculty's contact hours, particularly with entry-level students. Our new curriculum has also introduced an internship for advanced undergraduate students, three of whom have already taken advantage of this opportunity. As expected, all of us in the department have actively been engaged in scholarly research and related activities: publishing, giving academic organizing conferences etc. department was proud to be associated with three conferences organized by our colleagues. Anyone attending the CPSA in August could not help but notice the exceptionally stimulating and well-attended conference on citizenship organized by Jim Moore. In March 2000, Harold Chorney, in collaboration with GIRE, organized a two day colloquium on globalization. This summer the department was a co-organizer with the University of Genoa, Italy and the University of Nice, France of a conference on the theme of European Integration. That conference was a product of the department's new initiative of entering into bilateral international agreements. We have already signed two agreements for student exchanges with the University of Genoa, Italy and the University of Strasbourg, France and are in the process of signing another agreement with the Institut de Sciences Politiques (Paris) France.

Nevertheless, I feel that we have just barely managed to complete the first foundational steps in the rebuilding and the reorienting of the department, and the next few years will be equally demanding. This year we have advertised four positions: one in Public Policy and Public Administration, two in Comparative Politics and one in International Political Economy. In addition to this hiring, we intend to recruit four more tenure-track faculty. thereby bringing the total full-time faculty complement to 23. In the year 2001-2002, we will also be making a joint appointment with the School of Community and Public Affairs. The task at hand for all of us is truly challenging. What is at stake is the future calibre of the department, the prospects for which now seem far brighter and more exciting than any of us might have judged in the not-sodistant past. I am very gratified by the energy, professionalism and dedication to the common good exhibited in the past year by our full-time faculty Although there were and remain divergent points of view and value-commitments among us, we seem on the whole to be pulling together successfully, in an atmosphere of openness and general goodwill, towards the goal of creating one of Canada's outstanding political science departments. As well, we continue to benefit from the essential contribution made to the department's curriculum by our part-time faculty whose commitment to quality teaching is exemplary. But none of us can perhaps appreciate better than I the cheerful hard work and unflagging dedication of our staff--Jeannie Krumel, Leo Tavormina, Gail Trottier, Helen Szyroka and Kathryn Rawlings. They are responsible for the smooth running of the department and help create for all of us a uniquely cooperative and pleasant workplace.

Reeta Chowdhari Tremblay, Chair. Political Science Concordia University Montreal, Quebec H3G lM8 E-Mail: reetact@vax2.concordia.ca



NEWCOMERS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

New Faculty

Tenure Track Appointments

Norrin Ripsman, International Relations

Norrin M. Ripsman received his B.A. and M.A. in Political Science from the University of Toronto and, in 1997, his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania. He was a Lady Davis postdoctoral research fellow in the department of International Relations at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1997-98 and a Mershon Center (Ohio State University) postdoctoral fellow in International Politics in 1998-99. His primary research interests include: the domestic sources of foreign security policy in democratic states, postwar peacemaking, the impact of economic interdependence on international conflict, and the efficacy of international sanctions. His publications include recent articles in Security Studies, Etudes Internationales and The Journal of Military and Strategic Studies, and a book, Power and the Purse: Economic Statecraft, Interdependence, and International Conflict, which he edited with Jean-Marc F. Blanchard and Edward D. Mansfield. His book manuscript, titled Democracies and Peacemaking, is under contract at Penn State University Press.

Julian Schofield, International Relations

Julian Schofield joins the department as a tenure-track faculty after serving one year as LTA. His Ph.D. is forthcoming from Columbia University where he is continuing research into the link between arms races and arms sales to conflict outcomes, including war. In November 1999 and again in May 2000, he presented a study of arms control options and National Missile Defense (NMD) at a symposium sponsored by selected Pentagon offices on the feasibility of renewing the ABM Treaty. He also had a unique opportunity to contrast the reactions to the NMD with other key stakeholders in the US administration, particularly at the Congressional and think-tank levels. His current research includes naval arms control, East Asian reactions to NMD, and the political sociology of doctrinal innovation. Recent publications include: "Arms Control Failure and the Balance of Power," *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 2000 (forthcoming); "Militarized Decision-Making and War in Pakistan - 1947-1971," *Armed Forces & Society*, Vol.27, No.1 (Fall 2000) - (forthcoming); and, "Arms Control and Its Realpolitik Skeptics," *International Relations*, 2000 (forthcoming).



NEWCOMERS TO THE DEPARTMENT

New Faculty

Limited Term Contract Faculty

Csaba Nikolenyi, Comparative Politics

Csaba Nikolenyi received his undergraduate degree from Memorial University of Newfoundland in 1993. In 1994 he completed an MA and in 2000 finished his PhD - both at the University of British Columbia. His main research interests are in the comparative study of political parties and party systems, political economy and rational choice theory. Currently, he is examining the institutional sources of cabinet instability and party system change in selected democracies. Before joining Concordia, he taught undergraduate courses at the University of British Columbia.

Ravi Chimni, Political Theory and International Relations

Ravi Chimni received his Ph.D from McGill University. He thesis title was 'The Modern Language of the Laws of Nature: Hugo Grotius, Thomas Hobbes and Samuel Pufendorf'. He has taught at M.S. University of Baroda (India) and University of Prince Edward Island. At present his intellectual interests are early modern, and contemporary political theory and international relations.

Loic Tassé, International Relations

Loïc Tassé wrote his Ph. D. thesis on centralization and decentralization problems in China at the Université du Québec à Montréal. He received Chinese and Quebec government scholarships and an FCAR scholarship which enabled him to spend four years in China. He also studied at the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris. From 1998 to 2000, at the CÉPES, he researched Chinese Institutional International Security Politics. M. Tasse is currently responsible for research on Asia at the research group on Economy and Strategy (Chaire d'Études Stratégiques, UQAM). His current interests include China and the WTO, the economic and political insertion of Japan, China and Korea in Asia, corruption, and military questions. He has published extensively on these topics.

Francesca Scala, Public Policy and Public Administration

Francesca Scala is a PhD candidate in public policy at the School of Public Administration, Carleton University. She received her B.A. in Political Science from McGill University and an M.A. in Public Policy and Public Administration from Concordia University. Her research interests include Canadian and comparative public policy; social policy; citizen engagement and public policy; identity politics; and reproductive technologies. Her recent publications include "Sustainable Agriculture and Global Institutions: Emerging Institutions and Mixed Incentives", *Society & Natural Resources*, 10:309-318, (with Luc Juillet and Jeff Roy); "Pratiques discursives et savoir social: l'exemple de la Commission royale sur les nouvelles techniques de reproduction", *Politique et Sociétés*, Volume 16, No 3.

Herminio Meireles Teixeira, Political Philosophy and Canadian Politics

Herminio Meireles Teixeira is a Ph.D candidate at Carleton University. He will soon be defending his doctoral dissertation dealing with the relationship between transformations in the concept of government and their impact on the common good. Other research interests include technology and political culture, and the history of classical political thought. For the past several years, he has taught as a sessional lecturer on media & technology and political theory at Concordia University.

SELECTED 1999-2000 PUBLICATIONS

Brooke Jeffrey. Hard Right Turn: The New Face of Neo-Conservatism in Canada. Toronto: Harper Collins, 1999.

Arthur Kroker. *The Possessed Individual*, Passagen Verlag, Vienna 1999. (German Translation – New Introduction.

Guy Lachapelle, Luc Bernier and Pierre P. Tremblay (sous la direction de), Le processus budgetaire au Quebec, Quebec, Presses de l'Universite de Quebec, 1999.

Guy Lachapelle, John Trent (ed.), Globalization Governance and Identity: The Emergence of New Partnerships, Les presses de l'Universite de Montreal, 2000.

Pete Moore. Review of Michael Herb, All in the Family: Absolutism, Revolution, and Democracy in the Middle Eastern Monarchies, in American Political Science Review, June 2000.

Pete Moore. "The Failure of Economic Reform in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan," paper for Changing Economies and Changing Societies in the Middle East: Winners and Losers in the Process of Economic Reform, Robert Schuman Centre at the European University Institute, Florence, Italy, 2000-2001.

Csaba Nikolenyi. Book review of: Democracy without Associations: Transformation of the Party System and Social Cleavages in India. Author: Pradeep Chhibber. Pacific Affairs January 2001, Volume 73, No. 4.

Norrin M. Ripsman. "The Political Economy of National Security: A Research and Teaching Agenda," *Journal of Military and Strategic Studies*, vol. 1, no. 2 Spring 2000.

Daniel Salée. "Gerald Godin: entre l'alterité et la nation" in L. Beaudry, R. Comeau and G. Lachapelle (eds.), Gerald Godin: Un poete en politique, Montreal: L'Hexagone, 2000), pp, 99-118. (With M. Labelle).

Daniel Salée "La citoyenneté en question: l'Etat canadien face a l'immigration et a la diversité nationale et culturelle", *Sociologie et societes*, vol. 31, no. 2, Fall 1999, pp. 125-144. (With M. Labelle).

Julian Scholfield. "Military Regimes and Nuclear Deterrence in South Asia", in Hugh Johnston, Reeta Chowdhari Tremblay, and John Wood (eds.), *South Asia: Between Turmoil and Hope* (Vancouver: Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, 2000), pp.327-354 (with Mike Schatzky).

Julian Schofield. "Militarized Decision-Making: War in Pakistan - 1947-1971" Armed Forces & Society, vol. 27, April, 2000.

SELECTED 1999-2000 PUBICATIONS

Continued

Julian Schofield, "Arms Control Failure and the Balance of Power", Canadian Journal of Political Science, 2000 forthcoming.

Peter Stoett. Human and Global Security: An Exploration of Terms. University of Toronto Press, 2000.

Peter Stoett. Canadian Environmental Policy: Context, Action, and Values. Co-authored with O.P. Dwivedi, P. Kyba, R. Thiessen. Broadview Press. 2000 forthcoming.

Reeta Chowdhari Tremblay. "Inclusive Administration and Development: Feminist Critiques of Bureacracy" in Keith Henderson and O.P. Dwivedi ed. *Bureaucracy and Alternatives in World Perspectives*, McMillan Press, 1999.

Reeta Chowdhari Tremblay. "Differing Responses to the Parliamentary and Assembly Elections in Jammu, the Kashmir Valley and Ladakh: State-Societal Relations" Ramashray Roy and Paul Wallace editors, *Indian Politics and the 1999 Elections*, Sage Publications, 2000 forthcoming.

Reeta Chowdhari Tremblay, with Hugh Johnston & John Woods eds. South Asia - Between Turmoil and Hope, ASA & SICI, Simon Fraser Printers, Vancouver, 2000.

STAFF PROFILE

After completing his BA in Political Science (1990) and Masters in Public Policy and Public Administration (1992) at Concordia University, Leo Tavormina took up the job of the internship coordinator for the Masters program in 1993. His job entails placing graduate students, after the completion of their course work, in various departments of the Public Service Commission of Canada. In addition, a small number of students take up their internship in Montreal and Quebec city. Each year the department of Political Science makes approximately 35 to 50 placements. The wide success of the internship program has been to a large degree responsible for the competitive admissions of the graduate program. Since June 2000, Leo has also undertaken the responsibility of placing senior undergraduate students in internship positions, both in the public and the non-profit sectors. On Friday May 4, under Leo's direction, the department will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Masters program in Public Policy and Public Administration in Ottawa, bringing together the alumni, the students and the faculty. Leo promises this to be an exciting event.

BRAVE NEW WORLD FOR THE ACADEMY

Is the Federal government's largesse [\$900-million over five years for 2000 new research chairs] an unqualified boon to universities? Will universities increasingly define themselves by the funding availability in the private and public sectors, rather than through academic priorities informed by broader considerations?

It is ironic that after draconian, funding cutbacks that have undermined, downsized and truncated universities, universities now might be still weakened by a seeming cornucopia of new faculty positions that could further compromise higher education.

It would be simplistic to see this latest crisis in the academy as a culture war between humanists representing the forces of light versus the professional and business faculties, representing the forces of darkness. The liberal arts certainly have more than their share of fluff and questionable trendiness, and scientists and engineers do important academic work.

The top Canadian research universities will receive, by far, the largest share of these new chairs, reflecting the past success rate of their faculty in obtaining grants from NSERC [natural science and engineers], SSHRC [humanities and social science] and the MRC[health sciences].

Several mid-level Canadian university officials have expressed concern that they will not be able to compete for new faculty and that their best staff will be attracted by superior offers at the more prestigious institutions ["Have grant, will travel"]. Their response has, to date, been to enter the competitive fray and to consider how to retain and recruit ["at all costs" according to one dean] their share of the available talent. A cynic might properly describe this expected university response as "chair-solicitation," informed by a strategic plan that seems to be no more than "me too, me too, me too."

Academic excellence and faculty recruitment, however, cannot solely be determined by successful grant applications. It is well known that the subject matter of certain types of research proposals will be more favorably considered than others; success might reflect more on the bias of juries and current notions of "relevance" than on the intrinsic worth of the scholarly project. Universities, in their haste to get on board what they believe to be the academic gravy train, likely will panic, over-react and confuse necessary and quality research with grants awarded.

It is difficult to believe that Canadian universities will find 2000 first class research "stars" in the next few years without "dumbing-down" the meaning of excellence. Some faculty will undoubtedly shine brightly, others might simply glow, still others might flicker and flicker-out. Yet, university priorities will be twisted and mangled to attract many of these faculty, and many will prove to be tenured "fallen stars."

Balance this against the pockets of excellence found in many universities, and the existence of superior teachers and researchers who work in areas where funded research is less likely, and perhaps without applied relevance to industry. Ten years from now, we may have recruited some distinguished chairs; other hirings will turn out to be highly specialized but somewhat less talented and adaptable faculty, with a profile unsuited to the three dimensional needs of the university, especially undergraduate education.

The implications of this "brave new world" for the academy remains to be seen. All faculty are expected to do research and to teach, but universities do not operate on the principle of relatively equal pay for relatively equal work. There exists large salary disparities; new appointees in some departments may be paid what other colleagues earn after 30 years experience. This is determined by market factors; there is a scarcity of accomplished academics in some disciplines and their ready availability in others.

How far are universities willing to go to support and reinforce the already existing two-tier system of paying very different salaries for faculty of comparable quality? At what point might there be internecine "war" among individuals, departments and faculties over salary differentials, and the consequent breakdown of something called a university community that must work together for the institution to thrive?

Universities will have to decide what they are about and how their potential can be harnessed and strengthened. If they mimic the goals and definitions of excellence of the top Canadian research universities, they will fail. They need to compete and excel in a different way, building on strengths where feasible, and thinking through the implications of squandering opportunities and resources in pursuit of a vision of education unsuited to the institution. This is a very challenging task, especially when government funding formulas tend to judge university success by performance indicators that disadvantage many mid-level institutions.

When the infamous Willy Sutton was asked, why he robbed banks, he responded "that's where the money is." Universities have to avoid the Willy Sutton model for setting university priorities.

Harvey Shulman

POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Political Science Students' Association (PSSA), is an association that not only promotes the involvement of students within the department, but is also available as a resource for information to further academic interests, a venue for guest speakers or simply a place to hang out, have fun and make new friends. Events this year include; our guest lecture series, one of which we will be co-hosting for the Honourable Finance Minister Paul Martin, a *Caribbean Nights* theme party, a bingo night at Reggies (the student union bar) and last but not least our famous wine and cheese events—all of which are great opportunities to meet your professors and make new friends.

The PSSA Executive

STUDENT PROFILES

Darren Scott

Darren Scott is a third year undergraduate at Concordia who majors in Political Science and minors in Anthropology. Intrigued by International issues throughout the world, especially within political relations and cultural studies of different states, it has been his long time goal to travel and learn from every travel experience those things one cannot acquire from textbooks, lectures, or the library. Taking the opportunity of a lifetime, he spent six weeks, during the summer of 2000, conducting a research project on development issues, specifically the status of human rights and democracy in Malawi (a country in the Southern Region of Africa). This specific research opportunity was made possible by The World University Services of Canada (WUSC), and those who helped contribute to his fundraising efforts, such as Concordia's Office of the Dean and the Department of Political Science. However, it also took a significant amount of work on his part in choosing a research topic, fundraising, and preparations within the WUSC team. A group of 40 students from Malawi, Zimbabwe and Canada, each with independent research topics participated in this year's seminar. They visited many development project sites in Malawi's former Capital, Zomba, as well as Malawi's present Capital Lilongwe, and soaked up a lot of the culture from many other parts of the country. They each spent two weeks with a Malawian family in a none urban home-stay setting which allowed them to conduct independent research and to experience the Malawian culture in a none urban setting. Darren chose to undertake this experience as a political science undergraduate because the knowledge gained from such an experience is unparalleled. He takes pleasure in all new travel experiences and knew that this opportunity would be an excellent insight into a specific state's development concerns, and would give him the chance to tune his research skills learned from Concordia.

Geneva Guerin:

Geneva Guerin is in the second year of a political science/communications studies major. She plays soccer for Concordia's women's team and is actively involved in student groups: arts and science councilor on the Concordia Student Union; setting up a human rights organization on campus as part of an international network of chapters for the International Society For Peace And Human Rights (an international human rights watchdog). In addition, she is actively involved in organizing events/conferences/protests on various social issues such as genetically engineering organisms, economic globalization (WTO, IMF, World Bank, G20, FTAA, etc), human rights and environmental abuses, etc. She is working on a documentary called *Act of Mind* which attempts to provide an understanding into the contemporary activist movement of the west, while deconstructing popular stereotypes. It is set in the context of what took place at the WTO convention in Seattle. Her goal is to combine both her political science and communications degrees to produce documentaries (usually of a politically subversive nature), which will help proliferate information on important issues.

Riel Dupuis

Riel is a fourth year honours student in political science. A deeply felt interest in social justice issues had led her to pursue a variety of courses focusing on international politics, women's studies and human rights. She has recently completed an internship with the social justice committee, as part of the her political science program. The focus of her internship was an examination of the IMF and the World Bank's most recent structural adjustment program, the poverty reduction and growth facility. More specifically, her focus was on how the reliance of economic growth as a strategy for poverty relief is inadequate. Cases in Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Nicaragua and Honduras demonstrated that economic growth, in the form of privatization and liberalization, generally increased, rather than decreased the level of poverty among marginalized groups. This internship was a very enlightening experience that broadened her understanding of the inner workings of today's global economy.

POLANYI BIBLIOGRAPHY

I have just completed a classified and heavily annotated bibliography of 450 plus pages on works by and about the distinguished Anglo-Hungarian physical chemist and philosopher of science Michael Polanyi (1891-1976). Professor Polanyi, who taught at the University of Manchester, both in physical chemistry and the philosophy of science, was well known for his opposition to ideological thinking in all of its forms, whether it be that of the Russian Marxists of the first half of the last century (he debated the destructiveness of ideological thinking with Nicolai I. Bukharin in 1935, a year or two before Bukharin's murder), or that of the empiricists in the Anglo-American world. He is perhaps best remembered for his justly famous work *Personal Knowledge*, which is based on his Gifford Lectures of 1951-1952, and published by Routledge and Kegan Paul and the University of Chicago Press in 1958.

The bibliography is to be published proximately by Canadian Scholars' Press and distributed by the University of Toronto Press. In addition to a preface that is in the nature of a biography of Polanyi, and a time line dealing with Polanyi's career and academic life, the bibliography proper lists all primary, and many secondary and tertiary works in the ever expanding literature on Polanyi. It includes works in most of the main European languages, including theses and dissertations, tape-recordings, etc.

This bibliography has been made possible in part as a result of the generous assistance of Polanyi scholars throughout the world, and more specifically with the kind help of the editors of *Tradition and Discovery*, the North American Polanyi Society publication, as well as with the aid of some of the members of the editorial team of the now defunct British Polanyi society journal *Convivium*, who provided me with complete collections of their respective publications.

Maben Poirier

NOTEWORTHY

The Graduate Programme in Public Policy and Public Administration will be hosting a 20th Anniversary Gala on Friday, May 4, 2001 in Hull, Quebec. Details of cost will be available soon.

Guy Lachapelle was named as designate secretary general of the International Political Science Association and assumed his new responsibilities earlier this year. In January 2001, Concordia University will be the home base of this association.

Aziz Mulay-Shah and Christina Romanelli, two recent alumni, are the winners of Celanese Canada Internationalist Fellowships. Both are presently working on a masters degree in international relations at the Universiteit van Amesterdam, where these awards of \$10,000 will support their studies

REFLECTIONS ON EASTERN AFRICA

I spent the better part of April 2000 in Africa. This was a fantastic learning opportunity for me, as I had not been there before, and though many of my negative expectations were met, there were also several pleasant surprises along the way, magnificent scenery, and -- as we political scientists learn to love -- direct contact with people engaged in the art of the possible. Propelled by two research grants, my trip had two essential purposes. The first was to attend the biannual meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in Nairobi, Kenya. The second was to visit the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in Arusha, Tanzania. In between the two I traveled into western Kenya and then down the Indian Ocean coast through Dar el Salaam. Finally I stopped in Europe on the way home to visit family and friends.

Africa remains a mystery to me, and given the relatively short time I had there it can only be so. News media coverage of Africa is almost uniformly negative. Certainly, there is unparalleled poverty on what many refer to as the "stricken continent." Nairobi, in particular, seems to be seething with insecurity. Wealth and rifles are inseparable. Travel at night is impossible. My first image of the city was of the rows upon rows of child prostitutes who line the highway to and from the airport. And the odd car with "diplomat" license plates pulled over for service. As I was with the Canadian delegation to CITES, I stayed at a relatively posh hotel which had its own golf course; on almost every tee sat an armed guard, deterring the great unwashed from mugging rich whites reliving colonial days of privilege. The wealthy live precariously in Kenya, dependent on an alliance with the ubiquitous President Moi.

The CITES conference itself was less dramatic for me, as I have attended many such events, but it was interesting to watch the different NGOs (non-governmental organizations) battle each other for media and policy influence. Greenpeace had an army of upwardly mobile, cell-phoned specialists; the Norwegian whalers brought their traditionally dressed daughters. The biggest dispute, given the venue, centered on the African elephant; the southern states want to resume trade in elephant parts, as they have much stockpiled ivory and deserve credit for the costly conservation measures they have successfully implemented. The Kenyans, European Union, and Americans, however, find this ethically troublesome (while Kenya does have a poaching problem it is unclear why Botswanians should pay for it). In the end, after an interesting barrage of campaigning on both sides, an agreement was reached to basically leave things until the next CITES meeting. But the split between northerners who want southerners to refrain from utilizing their wildlife, and the realities of conservation in the south, impressed me. The Tanzanians want to renew trade in Nile crocodile parts because, last year alone, at least 300 people were eaten by them. That's hard to reconcile with deep ecologists.

We did get away from the conference for a lovely day (despite serious stomach trouble on my part) in the Rift Valley, where you can see breathtaking views, have your brains liquified by Kenya's infamously bumpy roads and daring drivers, and go on a safari. Kenya's tourist industry, once the backbone of its economy, is slowly dying, mainly because people avoid Nairobi's violence. But the wildlife parks are spectacular, and my conversations with tour guides and poaching officials were quite illuminating. This was also the case on safari in Tanzania, though that trip was much more engaging because our driver, named Simba, drove into a deepditch. As we struggled to get the truck free, night began to fall, and leopards and elephants roamed below us (thankfully, we were on a hill). Finally another truck came to our rescue. At any rate the biodiversity is simply stunning in these areas, as are the beautiful people. Arusha was a fascinating place as well. Low on funds by this point, I stayed at a cheap hotel on the city

outskirts. After the second of a five-day stay, I was informed that there was "no more water."

Not "no more hot water", but no more water! (The third day a knock on my door revealed a young boy with a bucket of water for cleaning, and by the fourth the water bill had been paid and we could bathe again.) Arusha is located near the majestic Mount Kilimanjaro, which makes for amazing view on the flight there. And there is a discernable change of attitude from Nairobi, less tension in the air. As a bus driver explained to me, "things are hard here, but we do not kill each other." It is difficult indeed to summarize the richness of life in once-socialist Tanzania, especially in Dar, a city touched by so many cultures, including the German, British, and Ottoman empires. Again, contrasts in wealth were sobering; I spoke with diplomats in the bar of the ritzy Sheraton, and with boys living on the sewage-covered beaches, in the same afternoon. And yes, Coca Cola is everywhere, but so is traditional African music, dress, and seafood.

The ICTR is represented as a great advance for human rights and the punishment of genocide by the UN and most of those who lament the atrocities of 1994, but many I spoke with in Arusha view it as a court where outcomes are predetermined. This is of course a difficult and wrenching situation, compounded by the continuance of violence in the Congo and elsewhere. I sat in on the trial of a man accused of ordering the deaths of approximately 30,000 people (I had time only to witness the opening of the defense's case). It's alleged he forced almost 10,000 into a soccer stadium, where they were starved for close to a week and then slaughtered. In the midst of this tale of carnage (complete with videotape from the results) international lawyers argued the fine points of evidence and protocol. Witnesses would begin their testimony but, as soon as the questions got tough and personal, they would (understandably) request a closed session. Frustrated, I went back to Dar to visit with friends I had made there.

On my flight back to Europe I discovered there were several witnesses on the plane being relocated in France (next to Swahili, French is a common language in the Rwanda). If you testify on the part of the defense, you may have a difficult time living in Rwanda again; and many argue the Rwandan Patriotic Front, now in power, has been summarily forgiven for its own abuses. Those accused of playing a major role sit in relative comfort, including a lengthy trial process in an air conditioned courtroom in Arusha, while some 80,000 Hutus, including children, are still languishing in indescribable conditions in a penal system built to hold 13,000. (Further, UN courts cannot issue the death penalty; the Rwandan government does not adhere to this restriction.) While guilt is a problematic issue in genocide cases, living with the consequences of pursuing justice is a real dilemma for both those involved and the international community. Perhaps an International Criminal Court, if it is ever ratified into existence, will be better prepared because of the experience gained at the ICTR and the criminal tribunal on Yugoslavia at the Hague, which I visited in 1999. But it remains dubious whether the threat of such a court alone can curtail the forces that assemble to create genocidal policies.

One more image. The Canadian consulate in Nairobi was to be moved from downtown to a lovely spot near Gigiri, home of the United Nations Environmental Programme and the actual CITES conference itself. This follows the bombing of the American embassy three years ago. The Americans have already acquired a massive fortification nearer the city; at night it looks like something from a James Bond movie. The gentle Canadians chose a location surrounded by lush vegetation, including (according to the botanist on our delegation) unique African orchids. But the first thing they built, of course, was a ten-foot wall for security. The need for the security is the sad part. The ironic thing is that we ran out of money after building the wall, and for now that's all we have there. If Canada wants a future in Africa, we need to work on this.

Peter Stoett

SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR CONCORDIA MODEL UNITED NATIONS

One of the Political Science Department's most active associations, the Concordia Model United Nations (CONMUN), is planning another exciting year. Last year CONMUN sent over 100 delegates to six different conferences returning with a total of 12 awards. Approximately 25 delegates were sent to Washington D.C. to attend the conference held by Georgetown University. Representing both Canada and Cuba, the delegates from Concordia earned a remarkable 6 awards: 5 honourable mentions and 1 for best delegate. At McMun, the conference hosted by McGill University, CONMUN represented numerous states, among them were Baharain, Senegal, Uruguay and Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic. Although some momentum was lost due to a lack of awards at McMUN, CONMUN regained its footing at the conference held in Chicago. Representing Singapore, CONMUN returned with an award for best delegate. Next on the conference circuit was Boston, a prestigious conference hosted by Harvard University. Representing both Mauritania and Uruguay, CONMUN managed to secure 2 honourable mentions. The final conference of the year was held in Charlottesville, Virginia. With a very small delegation of only 5 students, CONMUN finished the year off as well as it had begun, securing 2 honourable mentions while representing the UK and Kenya.

Model United Nations conferences are held all over the world; for example, this year the World Model UN is taking place in Istanbul, Turkey. Participating universities are assigned countries and individual students represent their countries' respective positions in different committees. Topics vary widely within each committee; for example, a conference can hold a simulation of the World Health Organization discussing the fight against Aids or a Security Council simulation, discussing an international response to the production of chemical weapons in Iraq. Model United Nation conferences allow political science students as well as students from other departments not only to immerse themselves into the different aspects of international relations, but they also allow students to improve skills such as public speaking, negotiation, and general communication skills. During the process, students also have the opportunity to create great friendships.

In October, CONMUN will be sending 30 delegates to a conference hosted by Georgetown University. The organization expects to do exceptionally well this year. Following Georgetown, delegations will also be sent to conferences organized by the University of Philadelphia, Harvard and the University of Virginia throughout the university year. In addition, the World Model UN conference will be held in Istanbul this year. If funding allows, a small delegation might be sent to represent CONMUN. Throughout the year CONMUN will be holding weekly meetings that will act as workshops in order to instruct members on the proper procedural vocabulary and style which is required at MUN conferences. Also, the simulations that will be held at these meetings will act as an opportunity for members to expand their knowledge of international relations and help them prepare for upcoming conferences.

For further information about CONMUN, please visit our website at: www.conmun.org.

Riccardo Filippone

GRADUATE STUDIES IN PUBLIC POLICY AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: INTERNSHIP AND THESIS WORK

The Masters Programme in Public Policy and Public Administration provides a large number of students each year as Interns to various federal and provincial government agencies as a requirement of the MPPPA programme. As can be seen by the following list of where current students are interning, future MPPPA graduates are in high demand by various departments and in a number of instances have been offered full time positions upon completion of their studies.

Participating departments and agencies:

AON Insurance, Auditor General Canada, Environment Canada, Human Resources Development, Solicitor General Canada, Health Canada, Correctional Services, Transport Canada, Canadian International Development Agency, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Canadian Heritage, Public Service Commission, Industry Canada, Ministere Des Relations Internationales, ICAO, Human Resources Development, CSIS Review Group, United Nations, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Natural Resources Canada, Ontario Legislature, National Search and Rescue, Medical Research Council, Canadian Center For Management Development

Theses:

Thesis option students are currently working on a variety of subjects. Denis Madore is exploring the notions of exoteric and esoteric philosophical discourse, in whether or not certain types of medium (ie dialogue, text, and media) are superior in eliciting internal philosophic change. Adam Wygodny is examining the relationship between technology and mechanisms of political control. Mitch Belfer's thesis focuses on International Relations Theory, Third Party Intervention in dyadic conflicts, the outcome of these interventions, Jackal state posturing and alliance formations. Rick Bisaillon is completing his thesis on Class, Identity and the labour movement in Quebec. Glen Roy's thesis is on the changes in the agricultural policy in China.

POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

The Political Science Graduate Students Association (PSGSA) would like to extend its warmest welcome to all the newly admitted students and those returning to the MPPPA program. There are presently a host of facilities at your disposal, a new Graduate Lounge (D-205), equipped with computers, Internet connection, along with various books spanning across all political science sub-fields. Apart from being a great resource, the lounge also acts as a great place to meet with fellow students. The PSGSA will also be sponsoring lecture series throughout the 2000/2001 semesters and is co-sponsoring a public engagement with Finance Minister, Paul Martin, as a special guest speaker. You can also look forward to many social events, including the periodic Wine and Cheese and Pub Night throughout the academic year.

Tareq Jarrar, PSGSA President



JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Political Science at Concordia University invites applications for four tenure-track positions: 1 in Public Policy and Public Administration; 2 in Comparative Politics (Western Europe and Eastern Europe); 1 in International Political Economy. The ideal candidates should have a Ph.D. and an active research program, and will teach at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Applications should consist of a letter of intent, a curriculum vitae, a list of all publications, a statement of teaching and research interests, and three letters of reference. Please forward your application by November 15, 2000 to Dr. Reeta Tremblay, Chair, Department of Political Science, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West, Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8. Concordia University is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from women, aboriginal people, visible minorities and disabled persons. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada.

Political Science

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT INTRODUCTORY ON-LINE DISTANCE COURSES

Political Science 298B - Human Rights: An Overview. Instructor: Reeta C. Tremblay (This course is being offered in January 2001)

Human rights are the very essence of the modern democratic world. In December 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a key document called the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Although the principles underlying human rights have been generally accepted and acknowledged by the vast majority of states, debate about the universality of such rights can provoke strong reactions among people of different cultural backgrounds. Many scholars from the Third World argue that the human rights discourse is a product of the enlightenment and is therefore not universal. The objective of this course is to introduce the students to: the historical origins of the concept of human rights; the international regime and the acceptance of several generation of rights such as the civil and political rights, economic rights, group rights and women's rights; the critiques of universalism and the problems of implementation of human rights.

For a preview of this course please go to the following site http://132.205.57.9/poli298hr/

Political Science 298I- Issues in Global Politics Instructor: Peter Stoett (This course is being offered in January 2001)

Global politics is at once confusing and exciting. As the international political system continues to evolve (some would say "devolve"!) we struggle to understand far-away events and their impact on our daily lives. As recent news coverage of protests in Seattle during the World Trade Organization meeting indicate, people are concerned about the impact of international phenomena. Unfortunately we don't always get the opportunity to explore issues such as world trade or global warming in our everyday lives. Nor do we get a chance to discuss these issues with others, to hear differing viewpoints about issues before they make the first page of daily newspapers. This course is designed to stimulate student discussion and teach us about various issues in global politics today. It is intended as an introductory course for undergraduate students interested in the problems of conflict and cooperation in world politics. If you take the course you will actively participate in a study group where, through a message board, you will debate vital questions of the day with your fellow students.

For a preview of this course please go to the following site http://132.205.57.9/poli2981/

Conflict Resolution and the Model U.N.

Instructor: Julian Schofield
(This course is being offered for the first time in Spring 2001 - Course number to be designated)

This course is presently being developed by Julian Schofield. It will present the processes underlying the United Nation's procedures and mechanisms to resolve international conflict. The course will do a simulation of two issues: environmental security and security with regard to two major international conflicts.

Contact the department in April 2001 for the website address.

For information on registration, contact the Department Administrator, Jeannie Krumel, Jeannie @ vax2.concordia.ca